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Former Teacher Sentenced to Prison for Sexually Molesting Students

A former elementary school teacher convicted of sexually abusing special education students was sentenced today to 16 years in state prison, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jose Mosqueda, 45, of Los Angeles pleaded guilty on July 29 to three counts of lewd act upon a child and one count of continuous sexual abuse.

At the sentencing, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Jared Moses also ordered Mosqueda to register as a sex offender for life.

Deputy District Attorney Amy Murphy, who prosecuted the case, said the defendant sexually molested special education students in fourth grade between 2008 and 2011.

In October 2011, one of the students revealed that she had been sexually assaulted by the defendant, who was her teacher at the time. That month, Mosqueda was arrested and charged in connection with the assault in case GA084629. However, the defendant posted bail and he was released from jail, the prosecutor said.

After the defendant's arrest, two additional former students disclosed to law enforcement that they also had been molested. At that point, Mosqueda was rearrested.

While in jail, a fourth victim came forward and Mosqueda was charged in a second case GA092564.

The cases were investigated by the Monterey Park Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.